

Speculation Rises on A-Tests

The Atomic Energy Commission's announcement earlier this month, that "all categories" of atomic weapons would be tested in the Marshall Islands soon, has aroused considerable speculation.

If such is the case, it is thought that a bomb with the force of over two million tons of TNT will be exploded. It is impossible to visualize the effect of a bomb packing such explosive force, especially since the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima was estimated to have an explosive power equivalent to about twenty thousand tons of TNT.

Thus the hydrogen weapon thought about ready for a test in the Marshall Islands detonates with a force which is as much more powerful than the Hiroshima bomb as two million

is to twenty thousand. The secrecy of the Marshall Island test is demonstrated by the AEC announcement that only U.S. officials concerned would witness the new test explosions. This part of the AEC announcement heightens speculation that the new tests would involve the detonation of a hydrogen weapon.

These tests are important in that the actual destructive power of a hydrogen bomb has not—it is believed—been fully tested. It is now known that an atomic explosion is needed to set off an H-bomb explosion and, therefore, the new tests will probably involve both atomic and hydrogen explosions, of necessity.

Though we may have a long wait before learning many of the details of this new experimental project, no doubt it will have a wide effect on the future, both in the military and non-military field.

British Jet Urged for NATO

Air Force General Lauris Norstad, Supreme NATO Air Commander in Europe, is reported to have recommended a new British jet fighter for mass production and supply to all NATO countries. The new plane is supposedly a low-cost jet of surprisingly light weight.

Norstad's recommendation was made to a military group in Washington, which yields the highest NATO military authority and which has been seeking an acceptable standard fighter for use by NATO air forces.

First, the Bristol Airplane Company is supposedly perfecting an engine weighing less than a thousand pounds which will develop 5000 pounds of thrust. This represents a major advancement in the weight-thrust ratio.

It is also reported that a United States corporation, Westinghouse, is about ready to put a light-weight radar set, described as being equivalent in size to one cubic foot object, into production. This set weighs just over 100 pounds, whereas the average radar set for a fighter plane weighs about 600 pounds.

By cutting down on the weight of both the engine and the radar, it is estimated that the new Gnat jet fighter can be produced at a cost of about \$70,000. Fighter planes like the North American F-86 Sabre cost about \$300,000. It is obvious if this low-cost jet fighter can be produced in quantity for European air forces and even the United States Air Force, it will solve many financial problems.

Supreme Court on Censorship

The United States Supreme Court recently ruled unanimously that two states, New York and Ohio, could not ban films as immoral or tending to incite crime. The highest court said there were too many different standards on these questions.

Although this decision once again upsets the censors, the court has not yet ruled that all censorship of motion pictures, prior to public showing, is unconstitutional. That is what plaintiffs bringing recent cases had hoped for.

The main contention in this argument is that the constitutional right of free speech and a free press ban any pre-showing censorship of motion pictures, just as it bans any censor-

ship of speech and news reporting. The basis of this argument is that movies which are either obscene or which violate the laws of the country can be banned, and those showing them can be haled into court, only after the act of a public showing has been committed.

This is in line with policy regarding newspapers, which can only be held to account for news which is printed and which are not subject to pre-publication censorship or bans of news. This is a strong argument and one which the court will eventually have to pass upon. We suspect that, when the time comes, the highest court will find that a pre-showing censorship, or pre-showing ban, of moving pictures is unconstitutional.

Churchill to Retire?

Speculation continues in England that Prime Minister Winston Churchill will retire shortly after Queen Elizabeth returns from her six-month tour of the colonies. This is reportedly what Sir Winston has confided to a close friend in the House of Commons.

Those who expect the Prime Minister to resign point out that he is in his eightieth year and that the duties of Prime Minister are heavy for any man, especially so for one of that age. They admit Churchill apparently is in better health now than he was last year, when he suffered a stroke which incapacitated him for four months.

Along with the speculation that Sir Winston will retire is the general belief that Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden will succeed him. Eden was a question mark because of his poor health only a year ago and, at that time there was much talk that Chancellor of the Exchequer, R. A. Butler, would succeed Churchill. It is now thought more likely that Eden himself will succeed Churchill as has been anticipated all along, since Mr. Eden has recovered his health to a very remarkable degree.

It may well be then that the next Prime Minister of England is to be Anthony Eden, a man whom the world has watched and expected to assume that post for some ten or twelve years. Recent developments make it appear likely that this change will occur in 1954.

Need for New Churches

The Rev. Dr. Elliot L. Fisher, an executive of the Division of Home Missions of the Board of Missions of the Methodist Church, recently said there were more people living where churches are not established than at any other period in American history.

The churchman pointed this out at the annual meeting of the Methodist Church's Board of Missions. To help combat the situation he outlined, the Methodist Church is conducting a drive for 8,000 new congregations in the next three years. The church hopes to raise \$100,000,000 to house them.

Dr. Fisher says the United States is suffering from a large "displaced" population, constantly on the move. He says that seven out of ten persons who moved in 1953 will move again before the end of 1958. He also pointed out that in some years more than 30,000,000 Americans have changed their places of residence.

The problem outlined by Dr. Fisher is one which all churches should seek to alleviate. We sometimes forget that the United States is still a very young, and rapidly growing, country, with large numbers of displaced persons, and moving families. Such changes, and population trends, place a responsibility on the churches to keep up with the growing demand in new and growing communities. The churches thus still have a wide field in front of them, as they have had since the founding of this country.



HOWARD GOTLIEB

Commiss Hold No Fear for French

PARIS — In Paris the French are very frightened and it is Germany and not Russia which is causing the alarm. It is not easy to talk with a Frenchman about his country or French politics. To begin with, everyone here is confused by the constant change among the country's leaders who attempt to make policy and are never kept in office to carry it out.

The people are burdened by very high prices, one Communist-inspired strike after another, unrest among the Arabs in the French territory of Indo-China, and what is considered by them to be the stupid loss of French blood in the war in Indo-China. And to top it all, each and every one of them feel that once more they are faced with the threat from the increasingly stronger Germany.

How many of the thousands of Americans who visit the traditionally gay Paris each year and are taken for a ride on their hotel bills, who are treated roughly and abusively and appear to love it? How many of these get the feeling that the talk is about how France could remain a neutral or "third force" between the United States on the one hand and Russia on the other, how to keep enjoying life in the face of unpleasant international facts.

Disillusioned and disheartened by what they claim is a return to Nazi ideals in some quarters, the French blame the British and Americans and insist that Germany is being built up much too rapidly and in the end French soil will perhaps have to withstand yet a fourth German invasion. A French politician is always assured of a hearty cheer when reciting this fear in one of his speeches. American policy in Germany and the evils of Coca-Cola are two other sure fire issues.

STANLEY JAMES

Administration Defense Program Under Scrutiny

Senate Democrats are opening fire on the Eisenhower administration's new basic concept of national defense — the theory that the threat of atomic retaliation alone will prevent further Communist aggression. Several Senators led by Albert Gore of Tennessee have already questioned the policy in a sharp debate on the Senate floor. They warned that by withdrawing troops from such areas as Korea and Western Europe, this country might be inviting more local aggression which could lead to World War Three.

The Republican leader, Senator William Knowland of California, replied that President Eisenhower should be trusted to set the military policy, because of his long experience. Gore replied that the President was wrong last year in cutting air power too sharply, and now has reversed himself, also, the Senator observed that Eisenhower, as Army Chief of Staff, had occurred in the disastrous budget cuts made in 1949 when Louis Johnson was President Truman's Secretary of Defense.

Those cuts, and the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Korea, left the ground forces woefully unprepared for the

pleasant international facts. But in the Soviet threat to Central Europe, the war in Indo-China, Korea, or the large Communist Party at home will not awaken France to a sense of reality, perhaps the question of a new and important West German ally.

France is distrustful of the increased riches in trade and industry which has come to Germany in 1953-54. They are shocked by the fact that this year Germany will produce more steel than England and France put together, that the Germans are practically in complete control of both their affairs at home and those with other countries. The French nightmare is that the time will come when all this industrial might is converted to a war basis and directed once again towards her neighbor, who in Germany decides that it is worth her while to play politics with the Soviet instead of sticking by the West.

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THE SQUIRREL CAGE

BY REID BUNDY

While driving to work with radar yesterday morning, we suddenly remembered the "once-in-a-lifetime" fog photo secured by former Herald Editor Jack Baldwin a few years ago when the city was "soaked-in" like it has been the past couple of days.

Attempts to get another such picture by us failed, so we herewith reproduce Baldwin's famous photo:



"WHICH WAY IS TORRANCE BLVD., BUD?"

Newly-installed Chamber of Commerce President Paul got pretty close to the Torrance parking situation Thursday night in his short acceptance speech at the installation ceremonies when he told of the fellow who bought a trailer so he'd have a place to live while he was looking for a place to park.

As part of our program of bringing you the news wherever it is found, we'd like to report that a still operator at Bethel, Mo., arrested by Federal agents, protested that what he was making was not moonshine but a secret explosive. There's a difference?

Clipped: Those who face life with a smile generally show the missing teeth which came about the last time they made such an error. — The Green (Iowa) Recorder.

Herald Sports Editor Marv Hall is a man of few words—but he used every single one of them early one morning last week.

Returning from Lakewood with friends in the wee small hours after a party, Hall dropped off at the Herald where he had left his auto, it was raining, it was late, and Marv was more than ready to push his heap out to Acacia where he lives.

But it was locked. That's all right, because he had the key. It didn't work. After a series of unprintable epithets, Hall walked home in the rain. Early the next day he walked back, bringing a pair of pliers. That did the trick—he broke the key off in the door. He walked home.

Early the next day he walked back, hired a gang of locksmiths, and got his car open. He leaves it unlocked, now.

Turncoats Pose New Controversy

The 21 G.I.'s who have refused to be repatriated have long been a source of worry and discussion in the Pentagon, although there has been no general agreement on the course of action which should be taken regarding them.

This lack of unity of opinion on the issue was clearly evident when an announcement came from the Army last week that one corporal who had refused repatriation and then changed his mind, would be court-martialed. A day or two afterwards Secretary of Defense Charles E. Wilson announced he had personally taken the case under advisement.

There was also hot discussion in military circles over what to do about the 21 G.I.'s who refused to come back to the United States right up to the deadline. In the end it was announced that all were being given dishonorable discharges, but before that announcement came there were all kinds of disagreement.

Some argued that these men should be given discharges other than honorable but not outright dishonorable. Others wanted the twenty-one tried in absentia, if such a procedure was possible. Others wanted still other action taken.

The two angles considered in all this controversy were these: First, the effect eventual action would have on world opinion. Second, what would be right in view of the sacrifices and heroism shown by thousands of other Americans who refused to break under Communist torture and accepted repatriation at the first chance.

The latter point is one that is not yet fully understood by those who can't understand why these men have refused to return to U.S. custody. Many of the 21 men are Americans who broke under Red pressure and "cooperated with the Communists."

Some signed statements saying that U. S. had conducted

germ warfare, others signed other untrue statements. Some were responsible for rough treatment meted out to other American prisoners who were leaders of resistance movements, because they squealed on the loyal prisoner leaders.

It was all a delicate problem in the Pentagon these past few weeks. Not much was said about courts-martial and other punishments until the deadline for repatriation was past. Then the official, sober view of the Pentagon began to emerge from officials.

It was quite a jolt to some communities where prisoners, who had at first refused repatriation and then changed their minds, were given heroes' welcomes. It seems that the Pentagon doesn't think these boys are the real heroes after all.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower's housing program ran into as much GOP opposition as Democratic. The President urged Congress to pass legislation which would set up 35,000 public housing units a year and continue the present housing program in most major aspects.

Democratic criticism centered mainly on objections that the program did not go far enough but many Democratic Senators and Congressmen were surprisingly warm in their comments about the program.

On the other hand, some Republicans were surprised that the President recommended going along with most of the Democratic housing program and objected to Ike's proposals as strongly as anyone. Whether Democrats and Republicans would follow up the President's proposal to set up long-term home purchasing guarantees covering periods longer than those generally used today was a sixty-four dollar question.

Many Senators doubted whether the President would get all he asked, however, from this final session of the 86th Congress.

THEY SAY

Heitor Villa-Lobos, prolific Brazilian composer and director, praising American jazz:

"Because of its rich emotion, its technique, its richness of timbre and its tremendous fantasy of rhythm, I like it."

Alan G. Kirk, president, Columbia University:

"Freedom in cultural matters is indissolubly linked with political freedom, for the human spirit cannot be fettered by official edict."

Lyndon Johnson, U.S. Senator from Texas:

"I think we (Democrats and Republicans) all have the same objective in mind, the same goal—the best interests of our country."

W. Randolph Burgess, deputy to the Secretary of the Treasury:

"The national debt of \$275,000,000,000 is big any way you look at it—either in proportion to our total income, or per capita, or anything of the sort."



Your dimes and dollars created the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis—you make up its army of 80 million supporters and two million volunteers.

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And it will take more in '54 to keep this program rolling, because victory looms over the horizon. Show your faith in the organization you have made —

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